

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MONTHLY SUMMARY
OF
BUSINESS STATISTICS

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SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).				
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	
1943. December	...	89	51	30	4	50	76	52	14	32	212	125	106	176
1944. January	...	95	42	13	17	45	87	42	9	28	232	119	33	178
February	...	70	78	11	112	58	83	56	11	32	29	70	12	37
March	...	19	50	57	30	41	15	52	55	49	54	51	25	50
April	...	34	33	105	70	61	52	36	104	80	4	48	102	28
May	...	122	123	155	63	127	169	118	134	135	27	51	232	59
June	...	21	13	13	19	16	21	13	12	14	62	62	20	57
July	...	109	67	41	61	70	102	59	41	53	188	105	43	148
August	...	233	152	42	175	142	230	127	47	90	279	189	109	234
September	...	47	34	20	19	31	34	39	19	26	77	59	16	65
October	...	30	33	95	28	52	23	38	98	73	31	33	54	34
November	...	35	45	46	32	41	39	43	47	45	73	31	28	56
December	...	42	8	55	49	37	34	11	56	42	59	32	43	50

N.—Northern; C.—Central; S.—Southern; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales was 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40; 536,907,000 lb. in 1940-41; 547,000,000 lb. in 1941-42; 497,538,000 lb. in 1942-43 and 537,410,000 lb. in 1943-44.

The British Government has entered into a contract with the Commonwealth to purchase the wool clips of Australia for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 10·75d. sterling or 13·4375d. Australian Currency, per lb. This price was increased to 12·3625d. sterling or 15·4531d. Australian Currency per lb., commencing with the 1942-43 clip.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
July	80,397	67,442	83,715	76,207	80,397	67,442	83,715	76,207
August	191,662	128,260	105,532	113,506	272,059	195,702	189,247	189,713
September	269,889	180,883	158,005	73,356	541,948	376,585	347,312	263,069
October	288,766	195,950	173,622	129,588	830,714	572,535	520,934	392,657
November	166,462	159,518	128,231	166,056	997,176	732,053	649,165	559,313
December	63,866	88,943	94,774	111,713	1,061,042	820,996	743,939	671,026
January	24,821	37,213	135,652	.....	1,085,863	858,209	879,591	.....
February	31,461	30,274	60,931	.....	1,117,324	888,483	940,522	.....
March	29,000	44,208	43,493	.....	1,146,324	932,691	984,015	.....
April	43,583	40,835	42,000	.....	1,189,907	973,526	1,026,015	.....
May	36,173	41,491	51,274	.....	1,226,080	1,015,017	1,077,289	.....
June	37,597	56,745	56,870	.....	1,263,677	1,071,762	1,134,159	.....

3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.

Season.	Area under Wheat.		Yield of Grain.	
	Total.	Harvested For Grain.	Total.	Average per Acre.
Average 1933-34		acres.	acres.	bushels.
to 1942-43 ...	4,492,000	4,126,000	52,591,000	12.7
1940-41 ...	4,866,000	4,454,000	23,933,000	5.4
1941-42 ...	4,342,000	3,960,000	48,500,000	12.2
1942-43 ...	3,386,000	3,033,000	51,693,000	17.0
1943-44 ...	2,975,000	2,693,000	47,500,000	17.6

The final estimate by the Division of Marketing, Department of Agriculture, of the 1944-45 wheat yield is 17,978,000 bushels.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the eleven months ended November, 1944, was 9.7 per cent. less than in the corresponding period of last season.

Since November, 1939, the British Government has purchased under contract the exportable surplus of Australian butter. The contract price for choice was 137s. 2d. per cwt. f.o.b. Australian ports to July, 1942, and 142s. 6d. since that date. The wholesale price for local consumption was fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. on 8th June, 1938, and increased to 166s. 6d. on 6th March, 1942.

Output of Butter—(New South Wales factories).

Month.	Average, 1937 to 1939.	Output of Butter—(New South Wales factories).			
		1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Year ended 30th June ...	113,010	103,683	85,116	93,775	87,857
Eleven months ended Nov. ...	102,730	90,122	81,224	78,213	70,654
January ...	12,521	14,453	6,664	13,044	12,821
March ...	12,637	11,743	10,116	8,648	8,439
May ...	8,188	6,756	6,789	4,789	3,870
June ...	5,945	5,183	5,407	3,079	2,594
July ...	5,061	4,592	5,163	3,313	2,462
August ...	5,361	4,638	5,346	3,279	3,065
September ...	7,093	5,850	5,952	4,933	5,397
October ...	10,107	7,505	7,499	8,626	8,488
November ...	13,128	7,935	11,275	11,553	8,169

5. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January ...	3,465	4,519	5,808	4,965	257	282	275	261	1,124	1,459	1,503	1,493
February ...	4,074	4,768	4,799	5,712	267	282	272	258	1,218	1,484	1,546	1,476
March ...	4,196	5,097	5,451	5,765	272	280	270	256	1,246	1,477	1,534	1,469
April ...	4,011	4,904	5,424	4,830	272	278	271	256	1,194	1,513	1,561	1,449
May ...	4,300	4,925	5,696	5,878	276	278	269	253	1,302	1,517	1,517	1,447
June ...	4,017	5,077	5,632	5,478	280	277	269	252	1,292	1,564	1,544	1,433
July ...	4,638	5,410	5,520	5,061	284	277	268	251	1,353	1,531	1,514	1,426
August ...	4,264	5,003	5,500	5,476	283	277	266	249	1,380	1,532	1,533	1,413
September ...	4,746	5,352	5,710	5,222	269	277	267	248	1,305	1,564	1,525	1,416
October ...	4,994	5,420	5,753	5,449	285	280	266	247	1,428	1,576	1,536	1,400
November ...	4,729	5,826	5,701	5,811	289	280	264	246	1,467	1,603	1,517	1,433
December ...	5,398	5,853	5,653	...	288	279	265	...	1,555	1,583	1,552	...
Average (January-December)	4,403	5,180	5,554	...	277	279	269	...	1,327	1,534	1,537	...

Further particulars of employment in factories are shown in Table 20.

6. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

(a) SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded.

Year.	Month of December.			December Quarter.	
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.	Industrial and Rural Towns.	Total New South Wales.*
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.	No. of Permits.	Value.
1942	£191,563	£104,364	£8,233	100	£52,279
1943	66,626	32,081	4,449	70	43,037
1944	£157,549	£16,877	£50,666	137†	£77,544†

* Metropolis, 7 adjacent Shires and 129 rural and industrial towns; other areas not recorded.

† Subject to revision.

(b) CLASSES OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

The following dissection of private building permits granted in Sydney and Suburbs and in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in N.S.W. shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building:—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.					
	Houses.		Flats.	Factories.	Shops (b) and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals, etc.).
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.	(a)	£000	£000	£000
<i>Sydney and Suburbs.</i>						
Month of December—						
1942	2	3	...	80	...	107
1943	3	4	...	51	...	9
1944	36	24	1	80	3	14
Year ended 31st December.						
1942	162	72	22	883	19	288
1943	36	47	10	995	11	262
1944	124	173	13	1,025	23	245
December Quarter—						
1943	6	26	1	34	5	25
1944†	7	57	1	59	4	33
Year ended 31st December.						
1943	20	116	3	109	20	126
1944†	27	197	7	167	22	164

Includes (a) conversions to flats; (b) shops with dwellings attached.

† Subject to revision.

(c) GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

In addition to total for private building shown above, value of work authorised and contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in New South Wales was as follow:—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).			
	Month of December.		Year ended 31st Dec.	
	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.
Sydney and Suburbs	£000	£000	£000	£000
...	517	153	3,109	1,757
Remainder of State	36	38	1,211	1,093
Total, New South Wales	... ...	553	191	4,320
				2,850

NOTE.—Temporary structures for protection against Air Raids and alterations for this purpose are, in general, excluded.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

7. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	192.97	200.29	202.79	229.03	238.65	240.54	...
January ...	14.21	13.24	16.33	15.83	18.69	17.18	18.02
February ...	15.73	16.54	14.64	17.48	19.39	21.60	20.48
March ...	15.79	15.78	16.97	17.40	19.53	19.44	18.00
April ...	16.83	15.79	17.88	19.06	19.19	21.88	21.68
May ...	16.87	17.46	14.85	18.75	20.72	19.56	21.45
June ...	14.98	14.88	17.07	21.76	18.93	20.91	20.67
July ...	16.23	15.28	16.74	17.63	19.17	19.81	20.87
August ...	15.29	16.81	17.17	20.41	20.86	18.75	23.82
September ...	17.45	19.44	17.48	21.60	19.59	19.93	21.46
October ...	15.66	19.22	18.50	18.25	22.07	20.80	21.82
November ...	16.93	17.53	18.13	20.58	19.54	21.07	20.30
December ...	17.00	18.32	17.03	20.28	20.98	19.61	

8. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Year ended December—								
1938 ...	303	303	+ 4.8	+ 5.2	+ 11.6	+ 5.0		
1939 ...	303	303	+ 2.4	+ 2.0	+ 2.6	+ 0.9		
1940 ...	303	305	+ 6.3	+ 17.0	+ 4.0	+ 1.9		
1941 ...	305	304	+ 14.6	+ 8.0	+ 9.0	+ 4.0		
1942 ...	304	304	- 5.3	+ 9.2	- 5.1	- 8.4		
1943 ...	303	306	- 11.3	- 6.8	- 9.7	- 17.6		
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
1943- November	25	26	- 1.7	- 10.1	- 3.8	- 12.2	- 7.7	- 6.0
December	24	25	+ 5.4	- 12.8	- 5.3	- 11.4	- 1.6	- 5.5
1944.								
January ...	25	23	- 10.0	- 12.6	- 5.5	- 11.0	- 1.1	- 4.9
February ...	24	25	+ 1.6	- 2.9	+ 1.9	- 7.4	- 0.2	- 3.2
March ...	27	27	+ 10.4	- 5.1	- 1.3	- 8.8	+ 1.3	- 1.8
April ...	23	21	- 8.8	- 3.3	- 6.6	- 8.5	+ 0.5	- 2.2
May ...	26	27	+ 0.7	- 0.6	- 0.8	- 6.6	+ 0.5	- 2.9
June ...	26	25	+ 2.7	+ 0.8	- 2.2	- 7.5	- 1.8	- 3.2
July ...	27	26	+ 3.8	- 0.4	- 3.6	- 5.4	+ 2.1	- 2.2
August ...	26	27	+ 1.8	+ 4.2	+ 2.4	- 4.3	+ 6.1	- 1.1
September ...	26	27	+ 3.7	+ 5.0	- 1.5	- 3.8	+ 6.6	- 0.9
October ...	25	25	+ 5.6	+ 4.3	+ 0.1	- 3.2	+ 7.0	+ 0.3
November ...	26	26	+ 10.6	+ 4.4	+ 0.9	- 2.5	+ 6.8	- 0.2

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 20.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

9. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of November.			Five Months ended 30th November.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
1942 ...	£ 2,714,590	£ 1,712,258	£ 1,002,332	£ 14,427,120	£ 9,502,304	£ 4,924,816
1943 ...	2,816,121	1,904,075	912,046	14,876,475	10,309,692	4,566,783
1944 ...	2,630,586	1,917,702	712,884	13,335,734	9,615,296	3,720,438

* Excluding capital charges, viz. interest, exchange, sinking fund, etc., which amounted to £7,012,000 in 1943-44.

† Excluding Government contribution £800,000 annually for developmental lines.

	Month of November.		Five Months ended 30th November.	
	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.
1942 ...	thousands. 1,647	thousands. 19,958	thousands. 8,451	thousands. 96,224
1943 ...	1,660	20,953	8,521	102,596
1944 ...	1,628	19,528	8,137	103,082

* Partly estimated.

10. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
Month of November—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1942 ...	419,387	59,379	37,707	40,544	7,072	3,240
1943 ...	428,300	40,900	38,977	43,100	4,900	3,455
1944 ...	435,400	41,000	41,320	46,100	5,900	3,709
Five months ended 30th November—						
1942 ...	2,080,087	228,562	185,451	202,926	37,283	15,939
1943 ...	2,120,120	161,410	193,777	212,320	26,400	17,011
1944 ...	2,172,000	204,700	208,034	227,000	29,100	18,558

* Exclusive of Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Current Depreciation (Sydney and Newcastle), which amounted to £546,700 in 1943-44.

† Exclusive of Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

11. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.
(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1939. 31st August.	1943.		1944.				
		30th June.	31st December.	31st March.	30th June.	30th September.	30th November.	31st December.
Cars	216,633	173,188	177,245	178,986	180,938	182,315	183,500	184,364
Lorries and Vans	27,639	22,159	25,068	26,450	28,023	28,942	29,917	30,495
Trailers	6,538	6,873	7,409	7,679	7,621	7,848	8,118	8,501
Tractors [†]	1,102	1,382	1,429	1,455	1,517	1,585	1,612	1,636
Cycles—Solo	17,111	9,641	9,842	10,016	11,162	11,386	11,541	11,649
Cycles—Side-car	6,884	4,523	4,518	4,581	3,735	3,810	3,852	3,897
Omnibuses	794	913	913	931	977	998	1,011	1,018
Taxi-cabs	1,331	1,349	1,348	1,348	1,349	1,350	1,350	1,352
Traders' Plates	1,187	610	634	609	624	633	641	642
Total	329,219	270,638	278,406	282,055	285,946	288,867	291,542	293,554

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1940	63	88	118	128	173	163	60	53	63	64	77	69
1941	20	21	32	44	43	38	43	45	41	43	52	61
1942	17	19	16	21	18	12	13	9	7	4	5	2
1943	6	3	4	6	4	5	60	55	60	64	86	94
1944	4	5	6	6	10	9	73	62	66	53	65	58

* Excluding trailers.

12. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	No.
						No.
January	444,522	485,854	503,346	527,733	556,775	
March	447,310	491,816	502,810	536,795	560,665	
June	458,155	494,884	500,451	552,044	560,032	
July	474,228	494,904	506,566	546,856	559,106	
August	475,761	498,073	508,292	549,939	562,063	
September	479,485	500,125	509,332	554,227	563,425	
October	483,148	499,804	515,228	555,450	561,504	
November	482,837	499,614	519,375	557,140	562,093	
December	483,875	501,253	523,920	558,381	560,717	

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

13. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (NEW SOUTH WALES).†

As at June 30th.	Amount of Deposits.†	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1942.	1943.	1944.
1933	£ 72,307,685	January	£ 92,972,902	£ 109,220,389	£ 146,283,258
1934	75,714,070	February	90,647,010	112,817,955	150,374,605
1935	77,906,402	March	89,458,641	115,641,889	154,153,971
1936	79,999,948	April	91,110,603	115,500,011	156,024,547
1937	81,952,399	May	92,925,282	118,016,266	157,044,862
1938	86,015,685	June†	94,537,937	122,405,481	162,867,225
1939	87,473,789	July	97,330,938	126,688,719	166,751,050
1940	82,110,900	August	99,727,345	130,518,639	170,103,712
1941	87,750,208	September	101,385,379	134,162,891	173,037,207
1942	94,537,937	October	103,583,441	136,326,132	173,980,838
1943	122,405,481	November	104,929,899	138,328,054	176,747,773
1944	162,867,225	December	105,744,876	142,108,496	179,128,213

† Including accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £17,219,925 as at 31st December, 1944, including £218,606 net receipts in December.

14. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Special Wartime Deposits with Comw'th Bank.	Advances.
1941 ...	£000 379,272	£000 44,807	£000 46,012	£000 62,313	£000 2,625	£000 277,977
1942 ...	419,427	50,626	58,300	60,103	54,570	249,631
1943 ...	487,979	40,011	61,404	79,037	124,547	235,507
1944 ...	560,589	38,838	63,200	104,888	190,768	211,804

*Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

15. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

December Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Total.		
1941 ...	£000 76,432	£000 65,856	£000 142,288	£000 113,565	£000 28,723
1942 ...	91,676	61,909	153,585	102,043	51,542
1943 ...	111,460	69,116	180,576	91,120	89,456
1944 ...	135,603	76,758	212,361	84,270	128,091

16. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Amount—Million £														Index Numbers.
January ...	67.5	66.5	82.7	90.3	92.0	106.7	107.5	97	98	110	117	123	136	150
February ...	75.6	75.5	88.9	82.0	97.1	105.7	121.2	96	96	110	114	123	139	147
March ...	82.6	80.5	87.8	89.4	102.6	123.4	130.1	95	93	107	110	119	138	146
April ...	75.7	70.7	84.3	86.9	95.4	125.3	108.4	102	98	111	111	125	150	150
May ...	82.9	82.0	90.2	106.3	98.9	123.0	143.5	103	100	111	117	125	155	158
June ...	86.8	80.3	94.5	97.4	116.6	132.6	140.1	106	101	115	123	133	163	166
July ...	70.5	71.2	94.6	98.9	99.7	114.3	122.9	101	98	116	125	130	155	168
August ...	72.9	74.9	83.6	87.0	99.0	122.7	127.4	101	99	118	123	135	160	169
September ...	77.6	74.9	84.5	94.9	105.6	116.5	120.9	99	99	117	124	134	155	163
October ...	79.5	78.0	90.1	101.8	115.0	115.5	123.7	101	100	113	123	138	152	159
November ...	82.7	86.1	93.5	99.6	105.0	129.3	126.3	102	102	114	124	135	149	153
December ...	88.1	91.7	100.1	104.9	121.6	127.3	127.6	102	106	115	124	136	150	152
Year ...	942.4	932.3	1074.8	1139.4	1248.5	1442.3	1499.6	101	100	113	120	131	151	156

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown ded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

17. INTEREST RATES PER CENT. (N.S.W.).

Period.	Private First Mortgages Registered. Weighted Average Rate of Interest.*		Yield on Commonwealth Government Securities†—subject to Commonwealth Income Tax—				
	Not exceeding Rates in force in 1930.					At Current Rates.	
	Urban Securities.	Rural Securities.	Short- dated.	Medium- dated.	Long- dated.	Short- dated. 2 years.	Long- dated. 12 years.
Average for year—			Under 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 years and over.		
1937	5.3	5.0	3.44	3.75	3.86	...	...
1938	5.4	5.0	3.38	3.71	3.76	...	...
1939	5.6	5.2	3.54	3.87	3.92	...	...
1940	5.6	5.1	3.14	3.25	3.30	...	...
1941	5.5	4.9	2.45	2.95	3.10	...	...
1941	5.5	4.9	2.42	2.87	3.13	2.47	3.23
1942	5.4	4.9	2.39	2.89	3.11	2.45	3.24
1943	5.0	4.7	2.43	2.72	3.10	2.48	3.23
Months—			2 years.	7 years.	12 years.		
1944—March ...	5.0	4.5	2.40	2.69	...	2.43	3.24
June ...	5.0	4.4	2.32	2.62	...	2.44	3.24
September	5.0	4.6	2.34	2.49	...	2.47	3.24
October	5.0	4.4	2.22	2.49	...	2.48	3.24
November	5.0	4.3	2.09	2.52	...	2.48	3.24
December	5.0	4.3	2.19	2.51	...	2.49	3.24

* Average of three months ended month shown.

† Compiled by Commonwealth Bank as at last Wednesday in month.

§ Subsequent yields uncertain.

18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Thousand £.										
January	1,884	2,383	2,815	1,226	1,090	1,480	1,148	916	595	383
February	2,524	2,557	2,472	1,294	1,507	1,428	1,329	975	390	611
March	2,404	2,677	2,083	1,550	1,552	1,686	1,320	996	503	663
April	2,392	2,574	2,276	1,517	931	1,560	1,305	891	536	302
May	2,908	2,835	1,154	1,185	1,307	1,449	1,324	526	381	495
June ...	2,404	3,029	1,266	1,358	1,809	1,305	1,273	599	400	687
July ...	3,217	3,165	1,540	1,783	1,992	1,748	1,470	622	399	543
August ...	2,259	2,545	1,671	1,379	2,241	1,099	1,213	451	450	723
September ...	3,149	2,941	1,616	1,551	1,772	1,240	1,571	516	432	597
October ...	2,885	3,013	1,514	1,549	1,654	1,144	1,413	423	618	634
November ...	2,430	2,548	1,942	1,558	1,899	1,259	1,022	530	558	529
December ...	2,477	2,972	1,200	1,592	1,708	1,099	1,242	562	494	699
Year	31,053	33,239	21,609	17,542	19,462	16,497	15,630	8,007	5,756	6,866

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

NOTE.—The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security are included.

19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of December.			Year ended 31st December.		
	Crops.		Wool.*	Livestock.*		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1942	22,646	159,831	59,105	1,722,350	2,283,934	724,219
1943	19,706	101,500	64,051	1,416,767	1,734,753	774,467
1944	5,859	128,189	47,731	942,182	1,422,169	600,149

See note under Table 18. *Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under both headings.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

20. EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

The estimates shown below are based on Civilian Registers and returns supplied monthly by employers for purposes of Commonwealth Pay-roll Tax as from July, 1941. Employees in defence forces at home or abroad and Government "relief" workers are not included.

Month.	Estimated Total Employment, (Excluding Rural, Household, Domestic and Defence Forces.)			Estimated Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities. (a)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying. (b)	Factories.	Building and Construction. (c)	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services. (d)
MALES. (Tho usands.)										
1933—June ...	103·2	277·5	380·7	...	94·5	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	130·5	393·4	529·9	...	158·8	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	141·5	404·8	546·3	25·8	202·1	53·6	78·2	41·3	43·3	52·5
1942—July ...	158·6	376·0	534·6	25·4	213·3	44·2	80·3	32·3	36·0	46·0
1943—June ...	155·8	367·0	523·7	25·2	218·9	31·1	80·2	28·9	33·5	43·5
July ...	156·6	365·4	522·0	25·1	217·4	29·9	81·5	28·7	33·2	43·3
Oct. ...	154·9	364·9	519·8	25·1	217·9	29·2	80·8	28·3	33·4	43·9
Nov. ...	153·9	366·2	520·1	25·0	218·0	29·1	80·9	28·2	33·8	44·1
Dec. ...	152·6	369·2	521·8	24·7	217·3	28·8	80·9	20·7	33·5	44·5
1944—Jan. ...	152·5	369·6	522·1	24·6	217·9	28·1	81·5	28·4	34·1	44·8
Feb. ...	153·0	369·6	522·6	24·7	217·7	28·0	82·2	28·3	34·2	44·7
Mar. ...	152·4	370·8	523·2	24·7	218·0	28·1	81·9	28·3	34·5	44·9
April ...	151·6	369·8	521·4	24·5	216·5	27·5	82·3	28·4	34·3	45·0
May ...	152·3	369·2	521·5	24·6	216·2	27·0	82·8	28·5	34·2	45·0
1943—June ...	152·3	369·9	522·2	24·4	216·5	25·7	84·4	28·6	34·5	45·1
July ...	152·4	369·7	522·1	24·4	216·2	26·2	84·1	28·4	34·2	45·4
Aug. ...	153·2	369·0	522·2	24·4	215·0	25·0	85·2	28·7	34·6	45·8
Sept. ...	154·2	369·4	523·6	24·7	214·0	26·4	85·4	28·6	35·1	45·9
Oct. ...	152·5	370·7	523·2	24·7	214·6	26·3	84·1	28·7	35·2	46·0
Nov. ...	153·4	372·5	525·9	24·8	213·9	26·8	85·6	29·1	35·6	46·2
FEMALES. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	16·8	109·0	125·8	...	36·3	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	19·4	148·6	168·0	...	59·3	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	21·7	192·4	214·1	0·2	76·0	0·7	8·1	40·9	17·6	56·8
1942—July ...	29·3	203·6	232·9	0·2	84·8	0·7	9·0	41·1	20·7	58·9
1943—June ...	42·9	206·8	249·7	0·2	94·6	0·7	12·3	39·1	20·7	62·2
July ...	45·8	204·1	249·9	0·2	94·6	0·7	12·9	38·5	20·5	62·3
Oct. ...	46·8	207·9	254·7	0·2	96·5	0·7	13·2	38·0	20·9	64·3
Nov. ...	47·0	208·3	255·3	0·2	96·2	0·7	13·4	38·3	20·8	64·4
Dec. ...	46·4	210·0	256·4	0·2	95·5	0·7	13·4	40·1	20·8	64·1
1944—Jan. ...	46·6	205·5	252·1	0·2	93·3	0·7	13·5	37·5	20·6	64·4
Feb. ...	47·2	205·5	252·7	0·2	93·1	0·7	13·8	37·3	20·6	64·8
Mar. ...	47·6	207·0	254·0	0·2	93·9	0·7	13·6	37·1	20·4	65·5
April ...	46·8	205·1	251·9	0·2	92·5	0·7	13·6	37·0	20·3	65·0
May ...	46·0	205·6	251·6	0·2	91·8	0·7	13·7	37·3	20·2	65·2
June ...	45·3	205·1	250·4	0·2	90·5	0·7	13·8	37·3	20·3	65·4
July ...	45·5	206·1	251·6	0·2	90·9	0·8	13·9	37·2	20·4	65·7
Aug. ...	45·4	206·5	251·9	0·2	90·7	0·7	14·0	37·2	20·4	66·1
Sept. ...	44·4	207·3	251·7	0·2	90·2	0·7	14·0	37·3	20·8	66·7
Oct. ...	44·7	207·8	252·5	0·2	89·7	0·7	14·0	37·7	20·8	67·4
Nov. ...	44·5	209·3	253·8	0·2	89·4	0·7	14·0	38·7	20·8	67·8
TOTAL. (Thousands.)										
1933—June ...	120·0	386·5	506·5	...	130·8	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	155·9	542·0	697·9	...	218·1	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	163·2	597·2	760·4	26·0	278·1	54·3	86·3	82·2	60·9	109·3
1942—July ...	187·9	579·6	767·5	25·6	298·4	44·9	89·3	73·4	56·7	104·9
1943—June ...	198·7	574·7	773·4	25·4	313·5	31·8	92·5	68·0	54·2	105·7
July ...	202·4	569·5	771·9	25·3	312·0	30·6	94·4	67·2	53·7	105·6
Oct. ...	201·7	572·8	774·5	25·3	314·4	29·9	94·0	66·3	54·3	108·2
Nov. ...	200·9	574·5	775·4	25·2	314·2	29·8	94·3	66·5	54·6	108·5
Dec. ...	199·0	579·2	778·2	24·9	312·8	29·5	94·3	69·8	54·3	108·6
1944—Jan. ...	199·1	575·1	774·2	24·8	311·2	28·8	95·0	65·9	54·7	109·2
Feb. ...	200·2	575·1	775·3	24·9	310·8	28·7	96·0	65·6	54·8	109·5
Mar. ...	199·4	577·8	777·2	24·9	311·9	28·8	95·5	65·4	54·9	110·4
April ...	198·4	574·9	773·3	24·7	309·0	28·2	95·9	65·4	54·6	110·0
May ...	198·3	574·8	773·1	24·8	308·0	27·7	96·5	65·8	54·4	110·2
June ...	197·6	575·0	772·6	24·6	307·0	26·4	98·2	65·9	54·8	110·5
July ...	197·9	575·8	773·7	24·6	307·1	27·0	98·0	65·6	54·6	111·7
Aug. ...	198·6	575·5	774·1	24·6	305·7	25·7	99·2	65·9	55·0	111·9
Sept. ...	198·6	576·7	775·3	24·9	304·2	27·1	99·4	65·9	55·9	112·6
Oct. ...	197·2	578·5	775·7	24·9	304·3	27·0	98·1	66·4	56·0	113·4
Nov. ...	197·9	581·8	779·7	25·0	303·3	27·5	99·6	67·8	56·4	114·0

(a) Employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities and of Allied Governments.

(b) Exclusive of Working Proprietors. Numbers for July, 1943, and later months are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Allied Works projects.

(d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, Professional and Personal Services (except private domestic).

NOTE.—Estimates of employment in principal industries shown above replace former data which related to pay-roll Tax returns only.

21. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).
(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1932.	1934.	1936.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
January ...	100	103	93	100	110	119	125	136	141	141	164	155
February ...	100	105	95	100	112	122	125	135	142	145	159	161
March ...	100	102	95	99	111	121	130	130	143	146	164	165
April ...	100	104	96	101	110	119	125	137	141	147	164	162
May ...	100	106	95	100	110	122	128	128	146	144	166	172
June ...	100	103	99	103	114	127	131	135	150	154	174	176
July ...	100	105	97	100	112	126	134	139	149	158	171	177
August ...	100	106	97	103	107	128	135	137	151	157	181	181
September ...	100	108	97	101	113	123	134	134	151	158	171	172
October ...	100	109	96	104	113	121	135	137	154	163	162	169
November ...	100	109	97	104	116	124	136	139	152	161	164	171
December ...	100	105	99	106	116	124	131	138	153	165	163	169
Year ...	100	105	96	102	112	123	131	135	148	154	167	170

The base for each month is the average sales in the corresponding month of the three years, 1929 to 1931.

22. RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY—WAR PERIOD.

(Base: Weighted Average for 6 Capital Cities in 1923-27 = 1,000)

Quarter.	Food and Groceries.	Rent— 4 and 5 rooms.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous Items.	Total Household Expenditure.		Per cent.
					Index Number.	Increase from Sept. Quarter, 1939.	
1939—September ...	930	1,039	841	939	933		...
1940—September ...	945	1,042	948	996	973	4·3	
1941—September ...	947	1,043	1,129	1,062	1,027	10·1	
1942—September ...	1,061	1,042	1,337	1,105	1,122	20·3	
1943—March ...	1,050	1,042	1,408	1,145	1,141	22·3	
June ...	1,065	1,042	1,479	1,162	1,165	24·9	
September ...	1,030	1,042	1,463	1,176	1,154	23·7	
December ...	1,015	1,042	1,449	1,179	1,143	22·5	
1944—March ...	1,019	1,043	1,443	1,176	1,143	22·5	
June ...	1,025	1,043	1,437	1,172	1,143	22·5	
September ...	1,035	1,043	1,437	1,167	1,146	22·8	
December ...	1,022	1,043	1,441	1,169	1,142	22·4	

23. BASIC WAGE—INDUSTRIAL AWARDS.

Amount per week—Adult Males.

YEAR.	Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong— Port Kembla.*					Crown Employees. (All Districts).			
	Quarterly adjustment commencing—								
	February.	May.	August.	November.	February.	May.	August.	November.	
1939 ...	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1940 ...	81 0	82 0	81 0	82 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1941 ...	82 0	83 0	85 0	85 0	81 0	81 0	83 0	84 0	84 0
1942 ...	88 0	88 0	89 0	89 0	86 0	87 0	87 0	88 0	88 0
1943 ...	91 0	93 0	95 0	97 0	90 0	92 0	94 0	96 0	96 0
1944 ...	98 0	98 0	100 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	97 0	98 0	98 0
1945 ...	99 0	99 0	...	...	97 0	...	...	...	...

* In all other districts, except Broken Hill, the rates were 3s. less.

In 1939 quarterly variations commenced in March, June, September and December.

24. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).	Lead.	Zinc (Electrolytic).	Tin (Standard).	Gold (Fine).
	per oz.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.	per oz.
1929 ...	2 0·57	21 14 5	25 19 5	200 11 5	4 4 11
1938 ...	2 0·14	17 12 11	19 12 10	228 11 10	8 17 2
1939 ...	2 1·42	17 12 1	19 15 3	268 3 6	9 14 4
1940 ...	2 2·95	18 14 6	22 9 11	292 19 8	10 13 1
1941 ...	2 4·26	19 11 4	22 12 11	295 1 6	10 13 8
1942 ...	2 4·66	21 9 9	22 2 11	285 9 1	10 9 1
1943 ...	2 4·63	22 19 2	23 15 2	283 1 6	10 9 0
1944—March	2 4·63	24 7 10	22 0 6	329 11 6*	10 9 0
June	2 4·63	26 10 5	29 4 4	329 11 6*	10 9 5
July	2 4·63	24 14 8	27 17 3	345 17 0*	10 10 0
August	2 4·63	26 3 11	23 14 9	345 17 0*	10 10 0
September	2 4·63	28 0 5	28 0 2	346 2 5*	10 11 0
October	2 4·63	28 10 10	30 12 5	347 9 7*	10 12 0
November	2 4·63	26 4 6	22 0 6	347 9 7	10 12 0

* Revised.

25. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values, adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares are issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929	179·3	183·8	129·4	174·1	243·5	174·4	172·6
Sept., 1931	72·3	60·2	87·9	75·2	121·3	74·4	77·2
Mar., 1937	213·8	203·8	181·0	169·2	281·2	190·4	200·5
1943-Dec. ...	236·9	193·8	148·2	135·0	254·1	185·2	200·4
1944-Jan. ...	237·1	193·8	148·3	135·0	254·1	185·4	200·4
Feb. ...	237·0	193·8	149·3	135·0	254·1	185·6	200·6
March ...	237·1	194·0	149·7	135·1	254·1	185·7	200·7
April ...	237·2	194·0	150·1	136·9	254·1	185·8	201·0
May ...	237·1	193·8	150·1	138·7	254·1	185·9	201·1
June ...	237·2	194·3	150·4	138·7	254·1	186·0	201·4
July ...	237·3	195·3	150·4	138·8	254·1	186·1	201·5
Aug. ...	237·3	195·8	150·2	139·1	254·1	186·3	201·7
Sept. ...	237·5	196·2	150·6	139·3	254·1	186·6	202·0
Oct. ...	240·2	202·3	160·9	145·0	263·3	192·0	206·6
Nov. ...	240·3	202·6	162·8	145·4	264·1	192·5	207·1
Dec. ...	240·4	203·0	162·5	146·0	264·1	192·6	207·0

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index (75 Companies) prior to the slump was reached in April 1929; the lowest point was in September, 1931. The highest point of the pre-war period was in March, 1937.

The estimated population of N.S.W. at 30th June, 1944, was 2,870,956 or 39·3 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1942, 1,384,380).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

31st January, 1945.